

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CONAKR 00920 201435Z

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ACTION AF-18

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R 191318Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9895

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 0920

DAKAR FRO RDO, MONROVIA FOR AGATT

E.O. 116?2: GDS

TAGS : EAID US GV

SUBJECT : GOG REORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION
WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES

1. SUMMARY. GUINEAN GOVERNMENT HAS COMPLETELY REORGANIZED ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE IN FIELD ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES. SIX "STATE COMMITTEES" SET UP TO DEAL WITH SIX SEPARATE REGIONS. MOUSSA DIAKITE, MIN OF DOMAIN OF INTERIOR AND JUSTICE, NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR COOPERATION WITH US AND HAS ALREADY REQUESTED MEETING BETWEEN EMBASSY AND COMMITTEE HE PRESIDES. END SUMMARY.

2. MOUSSA DIAKITE, MINISTER OF DOMAIN OF INTERIOR AND JUSTICE, CALLED ME TO HIS OFFICE JUNE 19 TO INFORM ME THAT HE HAD BEEN NAMED BY PRESIDENT TOURE TO COORDINATE ALL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE, BETWEEN GOG AUD US. HIS RESPONSIBILITIES WILL IN FACT BE FOR ALL OF AMERICAN HEMISPHERE, INCLUDING CUBA. THESE NEW RESPONSI-
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 CONAKR 00920 201435Z

BILITIES FOLLOW FROM COMPLETE REORGANIZATION OF GOG IN

THIS FIELD.

3. PRESIDENT TOURE HAS APPOINTED SIX 10-MEMBER "STATE COMMITTEES OF COOPERATION" FOR SIX DIFFERENT REGIONS PRE-SIDED BY MEMBERS OF POLITICAL BUREAU AS FOLLOWS:

- A. AMERICAN CONTINENT: MOUSSA DIAKITE;
- B. EASTERN EUROPE (APPARENTLY INCLUDING USSR): MAMADI KEITA, MINISTER OF DOMAIN OF CULTURE AND EDUCATION;
- C. WESTERN EUROPE: N'FAMARA KEITA, MINISTER OF DOMAIN OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT;
- D. ASIA: ISMAEL TOURE, MINISTER OF DOMAIN OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE;
- E. AFRICAN COUNTRIES: ALPHA OUMAR BARRY, MINISTER OF DOMAIN OF EXCHANGES;
- F. COUNTRIES OF ARAB LEAGUE: LANSANA BEAVOGUI, PRIME MINISTER.

"STATE COMMITTEES" WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICY DECISIONS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION, WITH APPROPRIATE MINISTRIES STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION. WE HAVE SINCE OBTAINED FROM ANOTHER SOURCE COPIES OF PERTINENT DECREES, DATED JUNE 12, ON THIS REORGANIZATION PLAN, INCLUDING FULL MEMBERSHIP ON EACH OF THESE STATE COMMITTEES. WE WILL SUBMIT BY POUCH.

4. DIAKITE SAID THAT PRESIDENT TOURE HAD CHARGED HIM WITH DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO INCREASE GUINEAN-US ECONOMIC COOPERATION. AS A START, HE WISHED TO SET UP AN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING WITH US EMBASSY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON PRESENT STATUS OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND PROSPECTS FOR EXPANSION. HE SUGGESTED THAT THIS MEETING TAKE PLACE NEXT WEEK IF POSSIBLE. I REPLIED THAT THIS TIMING WAS SATISFACTORY DEPENDING ON PRESENCE OF RDO DAVID MCADAMS FROM DAKAR. I EMPHASIZED THAT, AS DIAKITE KNEW, US ECONOMIC COOPERATION WAS BOTH GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE. PRIVATE US COMPANIES MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS, AND WHILE THERE IS OFTEN SOME CONTACT WITH USG, COMPANIES DO NOT ALWAYS CONSULT FULLY WITH EMBASSY. THUS IN MANY CASES GOG BETTER INFORMED ON ACTIVITIES OF THESE COMPANIES THAN WE WERE. NEVERTHELESS WE WELCOME OPPORTUNITY CONSULT AND EXCHANGE VIEWS.

5. AS PART OF HIS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES, DIAKITE SAID THAT HE
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 CONAKR 00920 201435Z

HAS NOW REPLACED ISMAEL TOURE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CBG AND HAS ALSO ASSUMED CHAIRMANSHIP OF NEWLY CREATED SOGUIP (JOINT GUINEA-US /BUTTES/ PETROLEUM COMPANY; SEE CONAKRY 0892, NOTAL). HE CONFIRMED THAT HE WILL BE COMING TO THE US IN JULY FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF SOGUIP IN HOUSTON, TEXAS. NO FIRM DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR THIS MEETING. DIAKITE SAID HE WOULD LIKE, ON SAME VISIT, TO ATTEND CBG MEETING SOMETIME AFTER 15 JULY. WE HAVE SINCE LEARNED THAT

DIAKITE TOLD LOCAL CBG REPRESENTATIVE HE WISHED TO HOLD THIS MEETING IN WASHINGTON ON 22 JULY. MEETING WOULD BE HOSTED BY MARTIN-MARIETTA.

6. DIAKITE ALSO SAID THAT N'FALY SANGARE, GOVERNOR OF CENTRAL BANK, AND MARCEL CROS, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF OFAB, HAVE JUST LEFT FOR THE US IN CONNECTION WITH LOANS ACCORDED (SIC) BY THE BANK OF AMERICA AND HALCO TO GUINEA (SEE CONAKRY 0824 AND STATE 124740, NOTAL). EMBASSY HAS ALSO RECEIVED A NOTE FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY REGARDING THIS VISIT.

7. THESE DEVELOPMENTS CONFIRM PAST INDICATIONS OF THE DIMIN-

ISHED ROLE OF ISMAEL TOURE IN FIELD OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO GUINEA. TOURE NOW RESPONSIBLE ESPECIALLY FOR ASIA AND WILL APPARENTLY NO LONGER HAVE PRIMARY ROLE IN DECIDING POLICY REGARDING US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION. NOTE-WORTHY, HOWEVER, THAT TOURE WILL STILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MIFERGUI-N'MBA IRON ORE CONSORTIUM, WHICH IS POTENTIALLY MOST IMPBRTANT PROJECT BEING PLANNED FOR GUINEA. MIFERGUI PROJECT ALLOCATED TO ASIAN SECTOR BECAUSE OF AGGRESSIVE ROLE BEING PLAYED BY JAPANESE.

8. CHANGED ROLE OF ISMAEL TOURE APPEARS UNFAVORABLE FROM OUR VIEWPOINT SINCE TOURE TOOK COMPARATIVELY REALISTIC POSITION ON ACTIVITIES OF US PRIVATE COMPANIES IN GUINEA AND HAD BACKGROUND AND ABILITY TO MAKE NECESSARY DECISIONS QUICKLY. MOUSSA DIAKITE, WHILE PREVIOUS CONTACTS HAVE BEEN CORDIAL, HAS BEEN PRIMARILY OCCUPIED WITH HIS OWN MINISTRY AND HAS SHOWN NO INTEREST OR TALENT IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS. DIAKITE, A METHODICAL, CAREFUL DIPLOMAT, WILL PROBABLY BE LESS INCLINED TO MAKE QUICK DECISIONS WITHOUT REFERRAL TO PRESIDENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 CONAKR 00920 201435Z

9. REORGANIZATION ITSELF COULD BE FAVORABLE, HOWEVER, IN THAT IT COULD PROVIDE SHARPER FOCUS FOR DISCUSSION ENTIRE FIELD OF US ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES HERE, INCLUDING COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. REASONS FOR CHANGE IS DESIRE FOR DECENTRALIZATION AND DIFFUSION OF RESPONSIBILITIES PREVIOUSLY CENTERED IN ISMAEL TOURE'S MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE. ACCORDING TO COMPANION GOVT DECREES JUST ISSUED, WORK OF SIX STATE COMMITTEES WILL BE SUPERVISED BY NEWLY CREATED "NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL", CHAIRED BY PRESIDENT, IN WHICH TOURE WILL PROBABLY PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE.

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